



Application No. 09/362,394  
Filing Date July 28, 1999  
Inventor(s) Oon et al.  
Group Art Unit 1648  
Examiner Name D. Wortman  
Attorney Docket No. 0275/56972  
/JPW/AJM/BJA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

November 17, 2003

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

1. ☐ Consider the unentered amendment/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Enclosed is/are
  - ☒ Amendment/Reply.
  - ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s).
  - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS).
    - ☐ PTO-1449
    - ☐ Copy of IDS Citation
  - ☐ Other: Express Mail Certificate of Mailing dated November 17, 2003, bearing Label No. EV 305643209 US
4. ☐ Small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27 is claimed.
  - ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status is enclosed.
  - ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status was previously filed and such status is still proper and desired.
5. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 770.00 is enclosed.

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6. X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

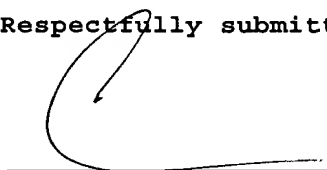
X RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).

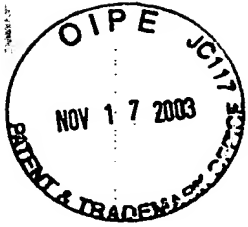
X Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17).

     Other fees \_\_\_\_\_.

7. X Three copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Dkt. 56972/JPW/AJM/BJA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Chong-Jin Oon et al.  
Serial No.: 09/362,394 Examiner: D. Wortman  
Filed : July 28, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1648  
For : DETECTION OF HUMAN HEPATITIS B VIRUS SURFACE  
ANTIGEN MUTANTS BY SPECIFIC AMPLIFICATION AND  
ITS APPLICATION ON GENE CHIP

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
November 17, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
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Sir:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination of the above-identified application, and addresses rejections made by the Examiner in the March 13, 2003 Final Office Action and July 23, 2003 Advisory Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. Applicants timely filed a Notice of Appeal on September 13, 2003, which was stamped by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as received on September 15, 2003. An appeal brief is therefore due November 15, 2003. However, since November 15, 2003 falls on a Saturday, an appeal brief filed on the next succeeding day which is not a Sunday or Federal Holiday, i.e. November 17, 2003, is deemed timely filed. Accordingly, this Preliminary Amendment, as a submission filed with a Request for Continued Examination of the above-identified application

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Filed: July 28, 1999  
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and being filed in lieu of an appeal brief, is being timely  
filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows: